## P28163.A05

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**Applicants** : Kenji ASAKURA et al. Confirmation No.: 8733

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Examiner: Quana M. Grainger

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**APPARATUS** 

## RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In response to the outstanding Official Action of October 15, 2007, for which a three-month shortened statutory period for response was set to expire on January 15 2008, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding objections and rejections set forth in the above-mentioned Official Action in view of the herein contained amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper:

Amendments the Claims begin on page 4 of this paper:

**Remarks** begin on page 14 of this paper: